

## Callaghan due in Aswan Friday

LONDON, Jan. 9 (Agencies) — British Prime Minister James Callaghan is due to hold talks with President Sadat in Aswan on Friday evening while on his way back to London from a 10-day tour of the Indian sub-continent. Mr. Callaghan is reported to have discussed the Middle East with India's Prime Minister Morarji Desai. Mr. Callaghan also held discussions here with Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin last month following President Sadat's peace initiative. Last night former British Prime Minister Edward Heath held talks with Syrian President Hafez Assad. He is to continue his private Middle East tour with a trip to Saudi Arabia.

# JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جوردن تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية «الراي»

## Cairo committee meets Jan. 11

CAIRO, Jan. 9 (R). — Egyptian War Minister General Mohammad Abdel-Ghani Gamassi will head a four-man delegation -- all generals -- at the joint Egyptian-Israeli military committee which meets here on Wednesday, the official Middle East News Agency (MENA) said today. MENA said the committee would discuss among other matters, a time-table for Israeli troop withdrawals from Sinai and the security measures needed during the evacuation. The Israeli delegation headed by Defence Minister Ezer Weizman was expected on Wednesday morning.

Volume 3, Number 648

AMMAN, TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 1978 — SAFAR 1, 1398

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

## Boumedienne arrives in Amman today

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (Agencies). — The Royal Hashemite Court announced today that President Houari Boumedienne of Algeria will arrive here Tuesday on a one-day visit during which he will hold talks with His Majesty King Hussein on "current developments in the Middle East and bilateral relations."

The Algerian president spent part of today in Qatar on the seventh leg of a tour of Arab capitals believed to be aimed at mobilising support against President Anwar Sadat's Middle East peace moves.

However, Gulf officials said the president's tour was evidence of flexibility among members of this front which also includes the PLO, Syria, South Yemen and the Libyan Jamahiriya.

In a joint statement in Doha, President Boumedienne and Sheikh Khalifa of Qatar stressed the need for "enhancing the unity of Arab ranks and mobilising Arab efforts to act jointly at this particularly sensitive stage."

They also "reaffirmed their support for the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and the right of the Palestinians to self-determination and to set up an independent state," it added.

The president has visited Iraq, U.A.E., Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.) and North and South Yemen in a tour which began last Tuesday.

He went on today to Kuwait, from where he will proceed tomorrow to Damascus and Amman.

Earlier today in Sana'a, North Yemen Foreign Minister Abdullah Asnani described the talks between President Boumedienne and head of state Lt. Col. Ahmad Al Ghasuni as "extremely important". He said the two leaders had reaffirmed their support for the recovery of all Israeli-occupied territories, pledged to work for the "restoration of Arab solidarity and gave their full back-

## U.S. House team due in Jordan

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JNA). — A 32-strong delegation from the U.S. House of Representatives International Relations Committee, headed by Congressman Clement Zablocki, arrives here Wednesday on a three-day official visit.

The members of the delegation will meet His Majesty King Hussein and Crown Prince Hassan, Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Bahjat Talhouk and a number of top Jordanian officials.

The delegation has already visited Egypt.



Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan gestures as he talks with his Italian counterpart Alando Forlani who met him at Ciampino airport in Rome Monday on his arrival from Tel Aviv for official talks. (AP wirephoto)

## Sadat will accept 5-year transition to Palestinian self-determination

ASWAN, Egypt, Jan. 9 (R). — President Anwar Sadat, back from a visit to Egypt's close ally Sudan told reporters yesterday he would accept a five-year transition period leading to self-determination for Palestinians. He was commenting on a suggestion by President Carter for an interim solution to the Palestinian problem by creating a joint administration for the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Mr. Carter mentioned the possibility of Israel, Jordan, the Palestinians and perhaps the United Nations participating in such an administration for an unspecified period after which the Palestinians would have the right to determine their own future.

Mr. Sadat said he had not yet received such proposals, but added: "In principle, I agree to self-determination." This could take place over a period of time. "Five years or so," he added.

main objective of an overall peace settlement.

President Sadat went on to say that there was no problem with Israel concerning withdrawal from the occupied Sinai Peninsula.

## Shah holds talks with Sadat on Mideast peace

ASWAN, Jan. 9 (R). — President Anwar Sadat, today discussed Middle East peace moves with the Shah of Iran as Egypt and Israel exchanged sharply worded statements concerning Israeli settlements in the Sinai desert.

The Shah was given a warm welcome here. Schoolgirls waving Egyptian and Iranian flags shouted in English "Welcome. Welcome Shahinshah" and sang songs in Persian, Arabic and Nubian welcoming him.

The Shah is one of the few Middle East leaders who have come out strongly in support of Mr. Sadat's peace moves. Informed sources said their private talks were part of the quiet diplomacy the two leaders planned to solve the Middle East conflict.

The Shah told reporters on arrival: "I have come to express my feelings of deep admiration and friendship to President Sadat."

"These are historical moments, we hope that what your president is trying to do will be fruitful and bring peace and stability to the region."

Asked about his forthcoming talks with Mr. Sadat the Shah said: "We are definitely interested to see a final settlement. I think that Egypt is doing precisely what we believe is right. This is to implement Resolution 242 and 338 -- the U.N. Security Council's longstanding guidelines for peace in the Middle East."

The Shah's one-day visit here will be followed by talks with King Khaled in Saudi Arabia -- a key country in any Middle East peace settlement because of its influence in the Arab World.

"We have had many meetings with our Saudi friends. I thought it was an opportune moment to pay a visit to Khaled," the Shah said.

Asked whether Iran was directly or indirectly involved in Middle East peace efforts, the Shah said: "You can't say we are not involved directly. How could you say that? It's our area and especially as many of the countries involved are our Moslem brothers."

## King meets Imam Sadr

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (Agencies). — Imam Mousa Sadr, Chairman of the Higher Muslim Shiite Council called on His Majesty King Hussein today to review Arab affairs in general and the Lebanese situation in particular.

During the meeting the King expressed his country's eagerness about Lebanon's national unity and reconciliation after the Lebanese civil war.

Imam Mousa, who arrived here yesterday on a few days' visit, praised King Hussein's efforts to restore Arab solidarity in the face of the critical situation through which the Arab nation is passing.

## Begin's plan "not nearly sufficient", British defence minister says

By Ian Kellas  
Special to the Jordan Times.

AMMAN, Jan. 9 — There has been "general disappointment" at the proposals put forward by Prime Minister Menachem Begin at Ismailia they are "not nearly sufficient". Britain's defence minister told the Jordan Times in an interview last night.

The Rt. Hon. Frederick Mulley, who flew to Amman on Saturday as the official guest of Premier and Defence Minister Mudar Badran, said that although he was not here to take part in the current peace negotiations, it was "interesting" to get the Jordanian assessment of the situation.

While here Mr. Mulley held talks with His Majesty King Hussein Prime Minister Badran and the Commander-in-Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces Lt. Gen. Sharif Zeid Ibn Shaker.

He made it clear during the interview that a successful Middle East peace settlement would have to be comprehensive and based on U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338. "Otherwise it will not be possible to have a settlement acceptable to all parties in the region," he said.

Mr. Mulley stressed that the first step was to reach agreement on basic principles covering the whole area. These must include:

- 1) Israeli withdrawal from occupied territories.
- 2) Recognition of "Palestinian rights and aspirations" and.
- 3) Participation by the Palestinians in determining their own future.

"Israel cannot expect to retain territories acquired by force. On the other hand it is only reasonable that she should equally be allowed peaceful development in a position of security," he said.

### Mulley leaves

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JNA). — The United Kingdom's Minister of Defence Frederick Mulley and the accompanying delegation left here this morning for Athens and London after a two-day visit.

All countries want assurance of security

When asked if a Palestinian state would pose a security threat to Israel, Mr. Mulley replied: "All countries in the area -- not just Israel -- would want assurances that they would not be subject to terrorist activities or surprise attack." But he continued: "It is quite feasible that some arrangements can be worked out so that reasonable assurance can be given."

Asked what credit he gave to the view that Israel could not safely afford to surrender land so close to the Mediterranean, Mr. Mulley replied that this question had to be answered the other way round. There was no possibility of a settlement, he said, which did not adhere to U.N. resolutions which require territory to be given up.

Britain may help guarantee settlement

Mr. Mulley said it was "quite feasible" that Britain would help to guarantee a future peace settlement. He felt that there would be a period of transition and uncertainty in the early stages.

re would be a period of transition and uncertainty in the early stages.

Asked if he could envisage British troops being stationed as part of a U.N. peace-keeping force in this part of the world, Mr. Mulley said he "could consider it if it could happen". Britain "would not stand in the way of it" though he doubted the U.N. itself would be keen to employ the troops of countries which had had territorial connections here in the past.

Mr. Mulley said that President Sadat has "very much advanced the timetable" of peace negotiations and has had "an immense impact on world opinion". He felt that the other Arab countries would wish to participate in so far as their own interests became involved.

"The question now," Mr. Mulley continued "is if the Israelis are able to respond."

He spoke of the "absolute necessity" of "very substantial concessions from both sides" if a settlement is to be reached. The Arabs had already made indications that they would recognise Israel's 1967 boundaries. A "very positive" reply was now called for from the Israelis, he said.

Israel unlikely to desist all-out war

I asked Mr. Mulley for his view on newspaper reports a while ago, which claimed that Israel had an overwhelming military superiority over the Arabs and would be in a position to launch a war of annihilation. The minister replied that it was unlikely that were the case. He spoke of substantial improvement in the Arab countries' defence arrangements and continued that it would be very surprising if the Israelis wished to attempt such a thing. "Then, like everyone else, prepared to live with the certainty of peace." A war of that sort would mean the intervention of other powers.

Britain has recently concluded a massive deal with the Saudi Arabian air force, reportedly worth in excess of a billion dollars. Mr. Mulley has just come from Cairo where he signed another important agreement with The Arab Military Industries Organisation (AMIO).

Essence of British arms deal is technical assistance, not supply of equipment

I asked Mr. Mulley what the thinking was behind these deals. He commented that "very little in the way of actual weapons were involved. He said Britain was doing little in Saudi Arabia compared with the Americans or even the French, and that the emphasis in the British deals was on technical assistance and training.

He confirmed that Lynx helicopters and Swingfire missiles would be manufactured in Egypt under licence and with technical assistance from Britain. Rolls Royce, he said, were still negotiating with the Egyptians about the possibility of overhauling their MIG jets.

### Elections for Syria set for March 12

DAMASCUS, (AFP). — The Syrian Presidential elections will be held on March 12, when the mandate of President Hafez Assad comes to an end. It was announced here today.

## Big shipment of up-to-date Soviet arms due in Syria

DAMASCUS, Jan. 9 (R). — A big consignment of Soviet weapons, including planes, tanks and a new type of air defence missile, is expected to arrive in Syria this month, informed diplomatic sources said yesterday.

The missiles, which have not been seen in the Middle East before, are an advanced version of the SAM-6 which was used with devastating effect against Israeli planes in the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, the sources said.

They said the arms build-up was likely to include a squadron of about a dozen MIG-23 fighter-bombers and an unknown quantity of T-62 main battle tanks.

The T-62 is the equivalent of the most modern U.S. and British heavyweight tanks. Military experts said the new missiles, which have an improved guidance system, would seriously hamper Israel's ability to carry out air strikes against the Syrian Golan Heights and south Lebanon.

The sources said the Soviet Union had approved the sale of the new weapons to bolster Syria's defences following Egypt's peace initiative with Israel.

Syrian officials have maintained the strict secrecy which normally surrounds Soviet arms supplies, but the diplomatic sources said the first shipment may already have arrived.

They said the number of Soviet military technicians in Syria had risen recently from around 1,500 to almost 2,000, and that there had been unusual activity at the Syrian Mediterranean port of Latakia. The bulk of Soviet arms deliveries in Syria in peace-time are normally shipped to this port through the Bosphorus, the sources said.

## Splinter Palestinian group suspected of Hammami assassination

BEIRUT, Jan. 9 (Agencies). — A Palestine commando leader hinted this weekend that an Iraqi-based Palestinian splinter group was under suspicion for the killing of Said Hammami, the Palestine Liberation Organisation Head in London.

Mr. Hammami, PLO West Europe Representative and a moderate, was shot dead in his London office last Wednesday.

The incident was touched on in Beirut Saturday in a speech to a PLO martyrs' day rally by Mr. Saleh Khalaf, the second man in Fatah which is the biggest commando group and to which Mr. Hammami belonged.

Mr. Khalaf said he did not want to prejudice the inquiry into the murder. But he went on to declare that "Fatah is bigger than the name of Abu Nidal."

"We accept that a martyr dies on the battlefield but we are not accustomed to treacherous bullets especially from dissident groups which we knew how to deal with," he said. Abu Nidal leads an Iraqi-based Fatah splinter group. Mr. Hammami's body was flown yesterday to Amman for burial. The Mayor of Amman was among those who attended the ceremony to receive the body at the airport.

His Majesty King Hussein today offered his condolences to the widow of Mr. Hammami during a meeting at the Royal Hashemite Court.

## Herut Party endorses Begin's peace plan

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan. 9 (R). — Prime Minister Menachem Begin early this morning won backing for his Middle East peace plan from his right-wing Herut Party, which forms the heart of the Likud Bloc. The party is split over whether new Jewish settlements should be set up on occupied Arab land.

The Centre Committee of Herut, main partner in the ruling coalition, voted 168-15 for Mr. Begin's proposals to grant self-rule for Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza Strip and to return the Sinai Peninsula to Egyptian sovereignty.

The approval came after a stormy seven-hour session in which Mr. Begin took a tough line against President Anwar Sadat's warning that Egypt would not let Jewish settlements remain on its soil.

Mr. Begin said that if Mr. Sadat persists in his refusal, he might modify his peace proposals.

The Herut vote for Mr. Begin was less impressive than the figures indicated. By the time a ballot was taken in the early morning hours, most of the 700 committee members had left for home.

Opposition leader Shimon Peres expressed support tonight for the government's plan to strengthen Israeli settlements in Sinai.

Addressing a Tel Aviv meeting of the Labour Party, which he heads, Mr. Peres said a total Israeli withdrawal from the area would "weaken our national security."

"The government must be supported in its plan to strengthen our settlements and against any move to get us to pull back to the 1967 border," he said.

The Labour Party's number

SALE - ON WINTER COLLECTION  
**Rodier** -- **Paris**  
At POINT FINAL - Rainbow Street  
Starting Jan 10, 1978



# JORDAN TIMES

**Editor:** HASSAN HUSSEIN  
**Managing Editor:** JENAB TURUNJI  
**Deputy Managing Editor:** HASSAN HUSSEIN  
**Editorial Staff:** ALAN MARTIN

**Board of Directors:**  
**JUMA'A HAMAD**  
**RAJA ELISSA**  
**MOHAMAD AMAD**  
**MAHMOUD AL KAYED**  
**MOHAMAD AMAD**

**Editorial and advertising offices:**

**Jordan Press Foundation**  
 University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan  
 Telephone: 67171-2-3-4

**Tel:** 1497 Al Bal JO, Cables: JORTIMES, Amman Jordan

The Jordan Times is published daily except Mondays. Advertising and subscription rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising dept.

## Sociologist will probe controversial plan to move bedouin out of Petra ruins

By Susan Balderstone

Special to the Jordan Times

The problem of rationalising conflicting philosophies, which naturally come to the surface during tourist development at archaeological sites, is getting a great deal of attention during the Petra Development Project.

Final sketch plans for the new hotel and restaurant tourist complex at Petra were completed recently.

The director of the Petra and Jerash Development Project, Mr. Yousef el Alami, told the Jordan Times that provided these were approved by

the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, and by the World Bank, which is providing half the finance for the project, final documents for calling tenders will be ready by the end of April.

Apart from the provision of tourist facilities work is proceeding on the consolidation and restoration of the visible monuments, and the development of the whole area as a national park.

The whole question of restoration of monuments and national park development has caused the inevitable conflicting philosophies to come to the surface.

On the restoration question, the problem is the degree to which monuments should be restored. Is it necessary from the tourists' point of view to do more than merely consolidate the existing structures and make them safe?

Another problem is also bound up with the need for preservation of the monuments. It is the proposed resettlement of the bedouin community at present in Petra.

The restoration work currently in progress at the Urn Tomb illustrates the first issue.

Here the base structure of barrel vaults which supported the monumental staircase in Byzantine times is being reconstructed under the supervision of Department of Antiquities archaeologist Mr. Mohammad Murshed. This has been felt to be necessary in order for the tourist to be able to truly appreciate how the Urn Tomb was when it was used in the fifth century A.D. as a Christian cathedral. It is also today the main access to the tomb.

However the original Nabataean (1st C. A.D.) staircase still exists, providing a less obvious and dramatic approach from the south, but equally significant historically for the tourist.

The difficulty is in deciding how much of the former should be restored at the possible expense of the later. In addition the actual reconstruction work becomes extremely difficult to do well when new materials have to be used and a distinct difference between original and restored is unavoidable. It is conceivable that this could detract from, rather than add to the tourists' appreciation of the building.

The problem of the bedouin community is considerably more complex. The World Bank report, which forms the basis for its allocation of funds to the project, proposes the bedouins should be resettled outside Petra. This is mainly because with their increase of population has come rapidly increased erosion, due to the greater numbers of sheep and goats living off available vegetation.

With nothing to bind the sand, loose tinsol is lifted by the wind and together with sand have a sandblasting effect on the ancient sculptures, gradually weathering away the detail. The Corinthian Tomb at Petra shows the effect of this severe weathering.

As well, there is the problem of the development of the community itself. While the standard of living amongst the rest of Jordan's bedouin is gradually rising it has to be assumed that the community within Petra will eventually expect the same housing and services as are being provided elsewhere.

It has been suggested that even the present population exceeds the available livelihood in terms of grazing for animals and that "less their numbers can be controlled in some way they will become less well off than communities elsewhere in Jordan."

There is also the very obvious problem of pollution of the area by rubbish and litter, not solely the fault of the bedouin but contingent on any habitation of the site, be it tourist camp, restaurant or local inhabitants.

Two possible sites are being considered for the resettlement. One is Umm Shoun, visible to the northeast from inside Petra, the other is between Baida and Petra.

The bedouin will be able to go into the ruins every day to work there, but they would live and sleep outside.

Considerable criticism has been made of the proposal to move the bedouins out. Claiming to be descendants of the original Nabataean inhabitants of the site they belong to the Bdul tribe which traditionally has not had good relations with the mixture of tribes which live outside Petra in Wadi Musa.

No detailed study was made at the time of the original report of this factor, or of the actual number of inhabitants, future requirements and occupations etc.

Crown Prince Hassan has asked that the whole question be reassessed, and an Egyptian sociologist, appointed by UNESCO is expected shortly in Jordan to carry out a survey.

In the meantime consolidation work is proceeding at Petra under the overall direction of architect Mr. Colin Brooks who is working for the Department of Antiquities. Apart from the Urn Tomb, the current most urgent project is the shoreline up of the Nabataean temple known as the Kasr al Bint.

During a recent site inspection by Mr. Al Alami and the Director of Antiquities, Dr. Adnan Hadidi, at which the Jordan Times was present, Mr. Brooks pointed out that some

sections are rapidly deteriorating and the structure becoming unsafe.

Exploratory excavations will begin in January under the supervision of Dr. Fawzi Zayadina to determine the state of the base walls and the footing structure.

It is proposed in this case to carry out only as much reconstruction as is necessary to make the structure safe. The emphasis will be on consolidating the existing structure so as to prevent further deterioration. The tourist in this case will be able to indulge his imagination in romantic contemplation of how the temple once was, instead of having it reconstructed for him. Alternatively he could look up the reconstruction drawing in the guide book, which is to be produced in English, French and German, as well as Arabic and will have maps and descriptions of the monuments.

The hotel and restaurant plans have been prepared by an American architectural firm, The Architects Collaborative Inc., of Cambridge Massachusetts, acting as consultants for the development project.

These provide for a first class hotel to be located north-west of the present carpark and visitors' centre, with a camping site beyond the hotel to the west.

The present government rest house will be extended and will provide second class hotel accommodation. The existing visitors' centre will be reorganised to house the exhibits from the museum at present located inside Petra. Its current function of providing audio-visual information for tourists will be continued.

Visitors will continue to approach the "sid" by the present route. The floor of the sid itself will be graded and surfaced with stabilised gravel. Telecommunications and power lines at present suspended aerially will be laid underground.

A proposal being considered for the future is to convey visitors into Petra by specially designed horse-drawn carriages.

A restaurant cum research centre is to be the only new building inside Petra itself.

Nazzal's camp will be demolished and housing for Department of Tourism and Antiquities staff will be provided adjacent to the new hotel outside Petra.

It has been decided to site the restaurant opposite the present Nazzal's camp, a short distance up Wadi Al Deir. It will be raised above water level and check dams will be built at intervals along the wadi to control run-off. Two other possible sites were considered but rejected for various reasons, including that they were too conspicuous a position or too close to important archaeological remains. In addition to restaurant, kitchen and toilet facilities, the building will contain facilities for archaeologists who will carry out future excavations at the site. These include a small theatre, classroom, and antiquity repair rooms. It is thought that for short periods of excavation, usually one or two months, the "dig" teams may live in this building, or at least camp nearby and use the facilities.

The external appearance of this building is obviously of crucial importance to the visual success of the scheme. It is a difficult design problem to create a building which will fit in with the dramatic ancient and natural features of Petra.

Mr. Al Alami says that the building "will probably be faced with the local sandstone". This would be an important element of the design if the building is to marry well with its surroundings.

No doubt world interest in Petra and its antiquities will be heightened by the Nabataean exhibition which is to take place in Bonn and Krefeld, West Germany in May. The Jordanian Department of Antiquities will be providing most of the statuary for this exhibition which may also be held later at the Louvre in Paris.

As a well-known and relatively untouched (archaeologically) ancient site, Petra is considered unique. The development project is a large undertaking, the success or otherwise of which, the world's archaeologists and tourism experts will not fail to express opinions in the future.

## That's a threat?

The flare-up about Jewish settlements in occupied Arab territories has prompted Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin to threaten to withdraw his so-called "peace" proposals, at a time when the Israeli government has officially decided to strengthen existing settlements in the occupied northern Sinai region.

From the way the Israelis are acting on no less sensitive an issue than their settlements in our lands, one has to judge them as incredibly impervious to the most fundamental Arab demands. It is not unreasonable, one thinks, to ask that one retain full control over one's own lands, as the Egyptians are doing in the case of the Sinai settlements. Neither is it unreasonable, one also thinks, that the Israelis be asked to comply by universally accepted United Nations resolutions and international conventions that prohibit the establishments of such settlements as the Israeli government has now decided to strengthen in northern Sinai.

The fact that the Israelis are being so adamantly unreasonable on the two most important issues before them today -- those of settlements and Palestinian national rights -- makes us think again that they view the current peace talks with Egypt as little more than a mediagenic extravaganza whose driving impetus is a love for drama, not true peace. The Israelis should keep in mind that it does no good to break down old psychological barriers while simultaneously strengthening and reinforcing physical barriers to peace such as the Jewish settlements.

In this context, it would probably do more good than harm for Mr. Begin to withdraw his silly proposals, until such time that he shows himself more serious about negotiating for true peace. The withdrawal of proposals that in any case do not call for the full withdrawal of Israeli occupation forces from all Arab territories is no threat at all, but rather a confirmation of Israel's lack of seriousness about negotiating in good faith.



Mr. Yasser Sheikh and Mr. Ismael Kadrey (centre) receive instructions from Mrs. Alice Pickering on care of new braille watches she presented on Jan. 7. The watches which enable the blind to tell time are a gift of the Zale Co. and were made available to Mrs. Pickering through the U.S. State Dept. Mrs. Pickering is honorary president of American Women of Amman and wife of the American ambassador to Jordan. Mr. Kadrey is chairman of the Friendship Association for the Blind. The Association is training 40 blind students in office skills such as typing and operating switchboards and Teletype machines. Mr. Sheikh has already placed seven blind graduates in jobs in which they are self-sufficient.

## National News Roundup

### ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RAY, on Monday, said Israel has officially exposed its intention to colonise occupied Arab territories thus ignoring all international efforts to establish a just peace in the Middle East. We have often pointed out that Israel prefers to retain control of the land and would not mind it if it can also have peace as long as the Arab position is as weak as it is now. One cannot expect this Israeli farce of pursuing peace negotiations while at the same time planning more Jewish settlements in the occupied territories to continue. This Israeli attitude will have a cause an Arab reappraisal soon such that the Arabs would not have to lament when it is too late.

### FOR SALE

For early collections large wall settee and matching white corner table.  
 New cutlery set for six persons, assorted kitchen and bathroom items and folding sunchair.  
 Please call 38869 between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

### NOTICE

On the occasion of the foundation of the American University of Cairo's alumni club, all men and women graduates are requested to telephone 39659 or 25622, Amman, or write to P.O. Box 2077, Jabal Amman, giving their full addresses and telephone numbers so as to enable the constituent body to get in contact with them.

The Club Constituent Body

### Sheikh Sorour leaves

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JNA). — The Head of the United Arab Emirates Presidential Court, Sheikh Sorour Ibn Mohammad left here today after a two-day visit, during which he held talks with His Majesty King Hussein, the commander-in-chief of the armed forces and top officials on the latest Middle East developments and bilateral relations. He was seen off at Amman airport by the Court Minister, the Royal Court's Secretary General and the UAE ambassador to Jordan.

### Green Jubilee committee meets

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JNA). — The cultural committee for the green jubilee project discussed ways of encouraging people to support this project and to implement other forestry projects during a meeting on Sunday.

### Minister visits Saudi Arabia

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JNA). — The Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh left here for Riyadh on Sunday for a three-day visit to Saudi Arabia, at the invitation of the Saudi minister of information. During his visit Mr. Abu Odeh will discuss with the Saudi officials means of strengthening bilateral media cooperation. Meanwhile, the government named the Minister of Culture and Youth, Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf as the acting minister of information, during Mr. Abu Odeh's absence.

### Jordan for Cairo conference

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JNA). — Jordan will take part in the seminar on education, culture and science to be held in Cairo on Jan. 10. During its nine-day meetings the seminar will discuss means of using natural resources.

### Swedish envoy on special mission

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JT). — Speaker of the Upper House Bahjat Talhouni received in his office on Sunday the Swedish Foreign Ministry Secretary-General and Vice Minister, Mr. Sverker Astrom. They discussed bilateral relations. The meeting was attended by the Swedish ambassador in Amman, Mr. Astrom is on a "special mission" to Syria, Jordan, Egypt and Iraq to discuss the Middle East situation and intensifying bilateral relations. On Sunday the Jordan News Agency in Arabic referred to Mr. Astrom as the Swiss ambassador-at-large. In translation we perpetuated the error of both nationality and title. Our apologies for any inconvenience or embarrassment this caused those concerned.

### Department receives books

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JNA). — The Department of Culture and Arts today received a gift of books from the British Council. The gift, which was presented by the representative of the British Council in Amman, Mr. John Mills, included the Encyclopaedia Britannica and a collection of cultural and technical books.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

Today, and until Friday evening, the Goethe Institute is holding an exhibition of children's books and a collection of posters for children. The exhibition is open daily from 10-12 a.m. and 4-6 p.m.  
 During this exhibition, a film for children will be shown daily at 4 p.m.



### CLASSES IN CERAMICS (ADULTS) AT HAYA ARTS CENTRE

Group A (10 students)  
 Tues. and Thur. 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
 with Mr. Blazard

Group B (10 students)  
 Mon. and Wed. 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
 with Miss Tamimi

Three months course for JD 40, payable in advance starting 16/1/78.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Jordan Times welcomes letters from its readers commenting on material published in the newspaper or on any matter of public interest. Letters should be typed, double-spaced, and preferably not longer than 300 words. They will be edited only for style and grammatical purposes, and letters longer than 300 words may be shortened at the editor's discretion.

Letters should be sent by mail to: the Editor, the Jordan Times, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

### TWO FLATS FOR RENT

Two second-floor flats each consisting of three bedrooms, a salon, living room, dining room, a modern kitchen and two bathrooms, with central heating. The flats, each built on 210 square metres, are situated near the Engineers Housing suburb (Om Sumak).

For further information please call

Tel. 44312, 44311, 44313 ext. 53.

### A QUALIFIED SEAMSTRESS IN SIX MONTHS

Interested ladies can become qualified seamstresses in six months under the tutelage of a well known seamstress in Amman. The French methods are taught theoretically and practically.

For more information call 36783, MISS ERFAT ALAMEDDIN



# Crown Prince Hassan opens chambers of commerce and industry conference

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JNA). — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan opened the tenth annual Conference of the Jordanian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Professional Association on Sunday.

Addressing the conference, Prince Hassan stressed the importance of the coordination of efforts between the industrial, commercial and agricultural institutions for the establishment of a strong economy.

Prince Hassan also stressed the importance of such meetings because they are effective in finding solutions to the problems facing the development of the country.

He also reviewed the stages of development of the Jordanian economy and the difficulties which were overcome by a strong will of those who are in building this economy.

Pressure under occupation

His Highness referred to the pressures the Israeli government is exerting on Arabs living under the Israeli occupation. He said that the meeting will discuss ways of reducing this pressure, the time added.

The Minister of Industry and Trade, Najmeddine Dajani, then addressed the conference. He talked about the achievements of the first two years of the five-year plan. He also mentioned the implementation of the Jordan Valley project, the potash project, the Aqaba coast project and several electricity projects.

He also mentioned the implementation of the Jordan Valley project, the potash project, the Aqaba coast project and several electricity projects.

Committees formed

Then the chairman of the Chambers of Commerce Union addressed the conference. In his speech he thanked Prince Hassan for the role he has played in implementing various development projects.

Then Prince Hassan presented a cup to the Zaqra Chamber of Commerce for the services it has provided.

The opening ceremony was attended by a number of Cabinet ministers, senior officials and people interested in commerce.

The conference held its first working session yesterday afternoon and formed three committees to discuss supply issues, the development of production goods and the preparation for making Jordan an international commercial centre.

## Prince in industrial committee

Today, Prince Hassan participated in the work of the industrial committee of the conference where he indicated the necessity of noting all suggestions that are put forward in such seminars with the participation of all public and private bodies and institutions concerned, in order to avoid repetition and duplication in future conferences and seminars.

He also suggested establishment of a high-quality quarterly magazine to report events under discussion, ensuring appropriate coordination among operational economic and social sectors.

"Such a procedure would ensure finding positive and swift solutions to all problems facing these two sectors, and, consequently, boost production and achieve more income for the people and the state alike," the Prince said.

The three committees emanating from the conference had resumed their work this morning. The industrial committee discussed a working paper put by the Amman Chamber of Industry which includes a topic on developing the industrial sector in the Kingdom. Issues and difficulties by industrial development were reviewed.

## Practical response

The demands of industry were reviewed and debated in the presence of the industrialists. Thus the conference have practically and positively responded to Prince Hassan's indication that there should always be continuous meetings between the public and private sectors

to deal with issues touching the life of Jordanian citizens.

Also discussed were achievements in the field of industry and consolidation between economic and social development, expansion of basis of cooperation between the public and private sectors, industrial security, labour safety, personnel training and import/export questions.

A number of issues related to promotion of commodity production sectors were debated. These include organisational and procedural points on a draft bill for the Amman Chamber of Commerce or the Jordanian Industries Union.

## Reduced customs

The question of reducing customs dues on imported raw materials and local industrial products was also discussed.

The commercial committee discussed the basic structure for service of commercial activity, particularly as regards sea and air transport and communications, as well as finding good markets for Jordanian goods abroad.

# Commerce minister in talks with W. Bankers

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (JNA). — Minister of Industry and Commerce Dr. Najmeddine Dajani discussed with West Bank chambers of commerce representatives memoranda put by the representatives attending the Tenth Conference of the Jordanian Chambers of Commerce and Industry now sitting here.

Dr. Dajani said the memoranda dealt with the economic situation of West Bank farmers, as well as problems related to factories established there after 1976, together with the economic and financial results undergone by the Westerners by the floating of the Israeli pound, and high prices.

These subjects will be thoroughly discussed within the Executive Committee for Occupied Territories Affairs and the four member committee co-

posed of the Ministries of Industry and Commerce, Finance, Agriculture and the Executive Committee for the Occupied Territories Affairs, the Minister of Industry and Commerce said. The two committees will submit their recommendations to the Higher Committee for the Occupied Territories and Affairs, for consideration.

Dr. Dajani said the delegation expressed thanks and appreciation for the Jordanian government's efforts to bolster steadfastness of the people in the occupied areas and enable them to continue their economic activities.

The meeting was attended by Under-Secretary of the Industry Ministry, Dr. Hashem Dabbas, and Director of the Executive Bureau of the Occupied Territories Affairs, Shawkat Mahmoud.

# New Arab-British centre aims to promote greater friendship

LONDON (LPS). — A new centre designed to promote greater friendship and understanding between the Arab countries and Britain was opened officially in London recently.

Well established organisations pledged to increasing the goodwill between the world of Islam and Britain have moved their offices into this state early Victorian building at 21 Collingham Road, Kensington. On the outside the new beige and white paintwork and a plaque announcing The Arab-British Centre distinguish the building from its neighbours in this residential district of London, to which the many hotels attract overseas businessmen.

The organisations now established there are the Anglo-Arab Association, which dates back to 1946; the Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding, which was set up in 1967 and is known as CAABU; Middle East International, a monthly publication; the Labour Middle East Council; the Arab Charitable Trust; Palestine Medical Aid; and the Arab Women's Organisation.

## Classes in Arabic

The Women's Organisation has started holding classes in Arabic for women — although most of the students so far are children — and it is hoped to launch a similar course for men at a later date.

The director general of the centre, Mr. John Reddaway, made it clear that CAABU's approach is primarily political. Mr. Reddaway spent most of his earlier career in government service in Cyprus where he became administrative secretary and he has a wide knowledge of Arab countries.

When CAABU inaugurated, one of its aims, as drawn up by its members, was stated as follows: "We have sympathy for the aspirations, achievements and rights of the Arab peoples, especially the Arabs of Palestine, for whose administration Britain was responsible until 1948."

Mr. Reddaway said: "We do not have the resources for a mass approach to the British people, but we put forward CAABU's point of view at every opportunity. We publish pamphlets and write letters to the press. We provide speakers and a whole range of information, even to teachers' notes on the Middle East."

## 10 ambassadors

And CAABU's annual report for 1975-1976 makes this comment: "When CAABU was formed eight years ago, at a low ebb in Britain's relations with the Arab World, there were only a half a dozen Arab ambassadors in London. Today there are 19 — and we believe we can say without presumption that the existence of CAABU and all that it represents has been one factor making for the marked improvement in contact and understanding which this symbolises."

Mr. Douglas Collard, Executive Director of the Anglo-Arab Association, is also librarian for the association's fine collection of books. He is holding here an art book showing the 15th century Mausoleum of Qaythay in Cairo.

al links between the Arab World and the United Kingdom.

## Cultural exchanges

"In particular we arrange cultural and academic exchanges in both directions. We feel that such exchanges are a major contribution to better understanding, especially at this time when the oil producing Arab states are playing such a major part in world development."

The Arab ambassadors in London extend their patronage to the association which is financed not only with Arab money but by contributions from a number of British companies with interests in the Middle East.

"Middle East International", whose editorial offices are housed in the new centre, is a publication of primarily political and economic interest. It is edited by Mr. Michael Adams, who is Director of Information and a member of the Executive Committee of CAABU. He is a journalist with more than 20 years experience

of the Middle East. The publication has a circulation approaching 8,000 — one third of it in Britain, one third in North America and the remainder principally in the Arab countries.

## Represents M.P.s

The Administrative Secretary to the Labour Middle East Council, Mrs. June Ward, also has an office at 21 Collingham Road. Founded in 1969, her organisation represents some 50 Members of Parliament (M.P.s) who are members of the Labour Party. It also represents a considerable weight of opinion from the trades union and cooperative movements in Britain. The council's present chairman is Mr. David Watkins M.P.

All these organisations will benefit from the acquisition of the premises at 21 Collingham Road, which are spacious enough to provide ample accommodation for meetings and receptions. In addition there are two attractively furnished self-contained flats at the top of the building for the use of visitors.



Mr. Douglas Collard, Executive Director of the Anglo-Arab Association, is also librarian for the association's fine collection of books. He is holding here an art book showing the 15th century Mausoleum of Qaythay in Cairo.

# AMMAN MARKETPLACE

**RESTAURANTS**

**THE FLYING CARPET CLUB**  
opens for dinner an elegant oriental buffet.  
TEL: 62141 AMMAN

**CHINESE RESTAURANT**  
FAMILIES PICKNICKERS  
TEL: 42382

**MANDARIN CHINESE RESTAURANT**  
TEL: 42382

**MANDARIN CHINESE RESTAURANT**  
TEL: 42382

**To advertise in this section**  
phone 6774-2-3

**FURNITURE**

**FINLANDIA**  
Our fine products made by experienced Finnish craftsmen include the following:  
• Furniture for the home and office.  
• Ceramic dishes and tableware.  
• Handcrafted jewelry.  
2nd FLOOR, JARAL AMMAN, NEXT TO NEW INSURANCE BLDG., TEL. 42387

**SCANDINAVIAN SHOWROOM**  
Locations furniture handcrafted in Sweden  
Assortment of office and home furniture

**AD-DAR**  
FOR THE MOST PRACTICAL AND LUXURIOUS FURNITURE.  
WE ALSO CARRY A WIDE VARIETY OF THE MOST CONTEMPORARY LIGHTING.  
Phone 6774-2-3

**EUROPEAN FURNITURE SHOWROOM**  
400 SQUARE METRES OF SITTING ROOMS  
COUNTRY FURNITURE & LIGHTING FITTINGS  
modern elegant & traditional functional  
ABDALL NEAR B.B.M.E. BRANCH  
TEL. 65693-65778

**To advertise in this section**  
phone 6774-2-3

**FOOD-MARKETS ETC.**

**Argento House**  
Tel: 44238-44943

**More than 50 Varieties of deluxe French biscuits for all occasions**

**OPTIKOS SHAMI O.D.**  
The best Ever Made in Optic  
Jordan Intercontinental Hotel Tel: 42343

**To advertise in this section**  
phone 6774-2-3

**To advertise in this section**  
phone 6774-2-3

**SWEETS**

**PATCHI**  
CONFECTIONERY GIFTS BONBONNIERS  
JABAL AMMAN, WADI ESSER ST., TEL. 42380  
JABAL HUSSEIN, MOJIBAH RD., TEL. 30098

**CAPRICCI**  
TEL: 22522

**TRAVEL & SHIPPING**

**JORDAN EXPRESS CO.**  
TRAVEL TOURISM  
PACKING FREIGHT FORWARDING  
TRANSIT INSURANCE  
WORLD WIDE SERVICES  
KING HUSSEIN ST. TEL. 42778 & 42095 ABU BISHR AMMAN, JORDAN

**To advertise in this section**  
phone 6774-2-3

**SHIPPING TRAVEL & TOURISM**  
WORLD-WIDE HOTEL RESERVATIONS  
AIR CARGO FORWARDERS  
CLEARANCE DOOR TO DOOR  
Please Contact:  
**AMIN KAWAR & SONS**  
Travel & Tourist Agency  
P.O. BOX 222, AMMAN TEL: 223247-9  
JULIAN 1212 & 1520

**RENT A CAR**

**SATELLITE RENT-A-CAR**  
BRAND NEW 1977 MODELS  
TEL. 25767

**NATIONAL RENT-A-CAR**  
SHEPHERD HOTEL  
Tel. 39197-8

**To advertise in this section**  
phone 6774-2-3

**FLOWER SHOPS**

**Flowers Plants**  
**Bouquet**  
Our experts specialise in gardening, landscaping & plant maintenance.  
Shmessany Rd. Tel. 37820

**TALAL AGRICULTURE CO.**  
Gardening contractors  
All kinds of flowers for all occasions  
Decorative plants for indoors & outdoors imported from Italy & Holland.  
Pesticide vases  
KING HUSSEIN ST. TEL. 42387 AMMAN

**BUSINESS SUPPLIES**

**Let the specialists provide you with all your office equipment needs!!**  
**THE JORDAN EDUCATIONAL CO. LTD.**  
"THE OFFICE EQUIPMENT CENTER OF JORDAN"  
Showrooms - King Hussein St. Tel. 24222-3  
Offices - Prince Muhammad St. Tel. 42724



# U.S., Japan begin working-level talks to end trade dispute

TOKYO, Jan. 9 (AFP). — The United States and Japan begin a new round of working-level talks here today to put an end to a four-month-old trade dispute stemming from Japan's huge trade surplus, amounting to as much as \$8 billion in 1977.

In an opening speech, Chief Japanese Delegate Moriaki Motono, Director-General of the Economic Affairs Bureau of the Foreign Ministry stressed the need for the two parties to make efforts to settle the dispute amicably.

He said that the removal of all uncertain factors involved would enable Japan to regain confidence in its domestic economy and thereby contribute to the expansion of the world economy.

The U.S. Delegation Chief Alan Wolff, President Jimmy Carter's Deputy Special Trade Representative, replied that it was important for both sides to continue talks of this kind to jointly cope with problems now facing the world economy.

The three-day talks precede ministerial-level talks to be held here Jan. 12 and 13 between President Carter's Special Trade Representative Robert Strauss and Japanese Cabinet Ministers concerned, including Mr. Nobuhiko Ushiba, Minister for External Economic Affairs.

Mr. Ushiba conducted a series of negotiations with U.S. leaders in Washington in December last year.

Mr. Strauss is scheduled to arrive here on Jan. 11. The second ministerial-level talks will end on Friday with a joint communiqué in which both delegations are expected to formally declare the end of the trade dispute between the two nations since last September.

## INVITATION FOR RETENDERING TENDER NO. TCC 2/77 FOR THE JORDAN TELEX NETWORK

A — The TCC Tender Committee announces the cancellation of the above mentioned Tender and retendering it with the same previous conditions and specifications for the procurement, installation, testing and commissioning of equipment as a turn key project for the Jordan Telex Network. The equipment comprises the following:

1. An International Electronic Telex Exchange in Amman.
2. Twelve (12) Time Division Multiplexers:
  - a) Six (6) in Amman.
  - b) Two (2) in Irbid.
  - c) Three (3) in Aqaba.
  - d) One (1) in Zarqa.
3. Sixty six (66) Voice Frequency Carrier Telegraph (VFCT) Channels:
  - a) Thirty six (36) in Amman.
  - b) Twenty four (24) in Irbid.
  - c) Four (4) in Madaba.
  - d) Two (2) in Jerash.

Tenderers are kindly requested to offer for all three (3) items as an integrated turn key project as per the proposed plan in the specifications.

Tenderers shall include for the training of Corporation staff in the operation and maintenance of the offered equipment. Tenderers shall make proposals for this training, that is, duration, number of staff, location, etc.

B — Agents can obtain the Tender Documents from the Telecommunications Corporation in Amman for a price of (JD 100) non-refundable at the following address:

Secretary of Tender Committee —  
Telecommunications Corporation,  
Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle,  
P.O. Box 1689,  
Tel. 1221, Cable — Jortel Amman,  
Amman — Jordan.

C — Companies which previously submitted their offers can participate in this Tender, and they are not requested to purchase the Tender Documents, unless they wish to do so. In the same time they have a choice of:

1. To abide by their offers which already were submitted and submit any amendments to their offers.
2. Submit completely new offers.

New financial proposals should be submitted including the Payment Facilities.

D — Proposals should be submitted in three copies each in an envelope sealed and its cover labelled with the words "Proposal for the Jordan Telex Network, Tender No. TCC 2/77 "Original", "1st copy" and "second copy".

E — The latest date of submission of proposals to the Telecommunications Corporation Headquarters in Amman is 14:00, Monday Feb 6, 1978.

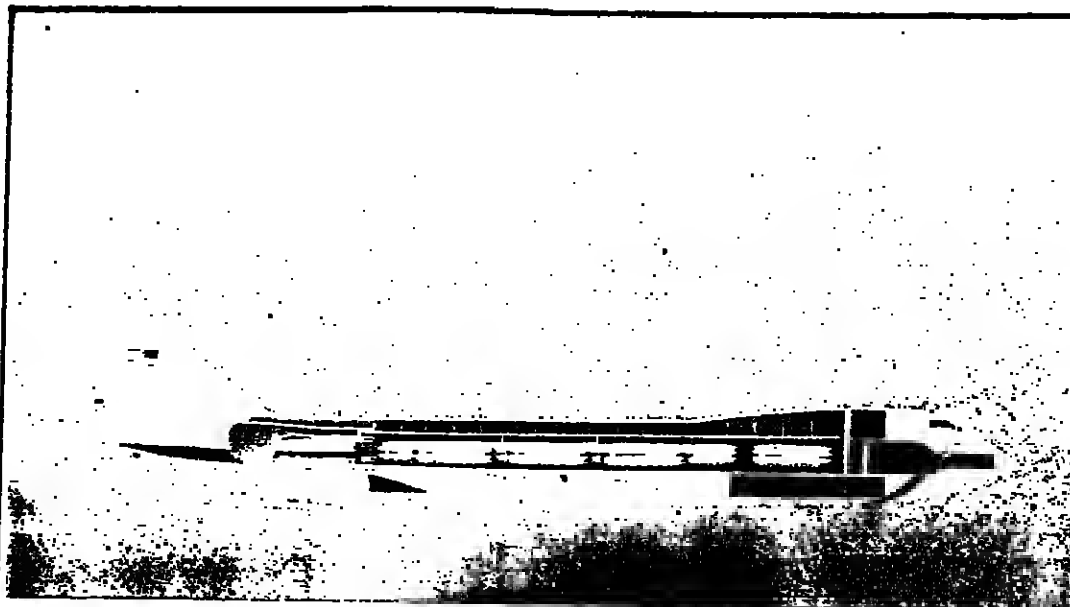
F — The Tender Documents consist of the following materials:

1. Terms and Conditions CTE.
2. Specification CTE1 — General Requirements applicable — to all Tenderers.
3. Specifications CTE2 Requirements for an Electronic Telex Exchange in Amman, Jordan.
4. Specification CTE3 — Requirements for Voice Frequency Carrier Telegraph (VFCT) Equipment in Jordan.
5. Specification CTE4 — Requirements for the Time Division Multiplex Telegraph Equipment in Jordan.

G — All bidders shall be required to deliver Bank Guarantee of 5% of the total value of the bid as a bid bond.

H — The bid and proposal should be valid for three months as from the date of submission of proposals.

Engineer Hashem Et-Tajer  
Chairman  
TCC Tender Committee  
Amman — Jordan.



The Boeing Company in Seattle (Washington) is studying a new, larger version of the air launched Cruise missile. Above, a cutaway model of a 747 jumbo jet shows how 70 to 80 of the weapons could be carried on rotary launchers in the pressurized cargo hold and released through a rear door. Below, technicians complete a model of the new Cruise, which would have a range of some 2,700 kms., more than double that of the Cruise currently being developed for the U.S. Air Force. (IPS photo)



## U.S. economy will grow 4-5% in 1978, says Commerce Dept.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9 (R). — The U.S. economy will grow this year and industry generally will flourish, according to a government report issued yesterday.

The Commerce Department said in its industrial outlook for 1978 that real economic growth should be about four to five per cent — better than most other major industrial countries would be able to achieve.

The projection takes no account of President Carter's proposed tax cuts totalling up to \$25 billion which should further boost the economy if Congress approves them.

Inflation is not expected to show much change from the six per cent level recorded last year, the forecast said, and unemployment will still average 6.5 per cent for the year compared with seven per cent at the close of 1977.

Industrial growth would average between seven and 10 per cent, the Commerce Department report said.

The aerospace industry is expected to lead the field with sales up by 20 per cent. Other leaders were expected to be the computer and television industries.

Traditional industries such

as the motor industry and machinery would fall back on last year's production or experience below-average expansion, the report said.

The department said sales of automobiles will fall marginally to 11 million units, including two million imported cars against a previous 2.1 million.

The automobile total is somewhat lower than that predicted by General Motors (11.7 million), but is close to the Ford prediction. Trucks and other commercial vehicles are expected to show a moderate decline.

Rises varying between seven and 12 per cent are seen for the meat, steel, paper, chemical, timber, printing and electronics industries.

Rates higher than 15 per cent will be achieved by firms making aircraft equipment and engines, mobile homes, turbines, x-ray units, sports items and prefabricated housing.

Retail sales will rise 10 per cent to an overall \$785 billion, according to the forecast.

Prague, Jan. 9 (AFP). — Czechoslovakia hopes the United States will soon hand over 18 tons of gold held at Fort Knox since World War II, monetary sources said here.

Expectations rose in Prague when the United States decided to hand back the Crown of Saint Stephen to Hungary. The Czechoslovakian gold was seized by the Nazis and then "liberated" by the Western

Allies. It found its way to Fort Knox.

The Americans have linked any return of the gold to compensation for American assets taken over in 1948 in Czechoslovakia.

The two governments initiated an agreement in 1974 with the aim of settling the affair, but the U.S. Congress decided that the compensation proposed was insufficient.

Converted into a floating university, but was then gutted by fire in January, 1972, and sank in Hong Kong harbour.

A marine court convened in Hong Kong found that the probable cause of the severe fires was "the actions of person or persons unknown."

Built on the Clyde in 1940, the Queen Elizabeth had a glorious history. As a war-time troop ship she ferried more than 800,000 Allied troops, and as a peacetime ocean liner she was the epitome of luxury at that time, with 11 decks, three swimming pools, 12 bars and even kennels for the passengers' dogs.

At her zenith, the old Queen was carrying 2,000 passengers and 1,200 crew back and forth across the Atlantic, but that was in the days before the coming of fast aeroplanes and the rising cost of keeping liners at sea signalled the beginning of the end.

Nearly 1,000 feet long and 83,000 tons gross, she was sold off to an American company, which was planning to use her as a tourist attraction off the Florida coast, but then in turn sold her in 1970 to the C.Y. Tung group of companies. An enormously rich, Hong Kong-based shipowner, Mr. Tung wanted to convert her into a floating international university, an idea first put forward at the United Nations.

Although a fire in a boiler room delayed the trip for some months, the QE I was eventually towed to Hong Kong, and was being converted when the fire broke out. Her last, sad resting place was the muddy seabed of Hong Kong harbour, where she rested as a hazard to shipping and as a potential source of pollution until the salvors moved in and now most of her has been sold as scrap metal.

In the end, the Queen Elizabeth was quite literally, a write-off. 5,000 fountain pens were produced from brass rescued from her portholes, and are being sold for \$180 each. The company making the pens says it is a tribute to the old liner. Others see it as the final ignominy.

The Queen Mary  
Now the Queen Mary, the sister ship to the Queen Elizabeth, which was bought ten years ago by the city of Long Beach, California, is under threat. According to reports from America, she has been given one more year to reverse her record of financial loss or else she will then be sold for scrap.

The Queen Mary, which reputedly cost the city about \$70 million to convert, was turned into a floating museum and hotel, and much of her "bric-a-brac" was sold off to souvenir hunters.

A typical English village has been built on the dockside. On the ship herself a

## U.S. energy secretary goes to Rabat

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9 (Agencies). — U.S. Energy Secretary James Schlesinger today leaves on a week's visit to Saudi Arabia and Morocco for talks with government officials on a wide range of energy subjects, but Energy Department officials declined to give further details.

Mr. Schlesinger conferred with President Carter for nearly an hour at the White House on the eve of his departure.

After meeting the president, Mr. Schlesinger told newsmen that Sen. Henry Jackson, Chairman of the Senate Energy Committee, had said he would make a new effort to end the

congressional impasse on legislation dealing with the price of natural gas.

In Morocco uranium production from phosphoric acid seems likely to be discussed, informed sources in Rabat said.

King Hassan II said a year ago that his country may build a nuclear power station using part of this fuel. Morocco is known to be in touch with American firms about the use of their technology for a uranium enrichment plant.

The country's phosphoric acid output is expected to total 1,250,000 tons a year in 1980.

## Algeria cuts back on French imports

ALGIERS, Jan. 9 (AFP). — Algeria is cutting back imports from France in the wake of a large trade deficit with France during 1977, informed sources said here today.

The reduction has shown up distinctly in the past three months and is linked to political tension between the two countries.

The Commerce Ministry, and the ministry covering energy and petrochemicals have given instructions to cut imports, the sources said.

They also declared that France's credit terms for Algeria are inferior to those offered by other partners.

French military activity in North Africa and insecurity for Algerian workers in France are cited as features of the political tension between Algeria and France.

The sources referred to "a deliberate policy by the French government to continue the deterioration of trade between the two countries."

## Boycott of Israel Office blacklists 17 more companies

AMMAN, Jan. 9 (R). — 17 firms from India, Greece, France and Britain have been blacklisted by Arab countries for dealing with Israel, it was announced here yesterday.

A series of decisions issued here by the Boycott of Israel Office and covering the period between Oct. 27 and Jan. 2 this year named nine Indian, five Greek, one British and two French firms which had been included in the blacklist.

This means those firms will be prevented from operating in the Arab League's 21 member states.

The names of the companies issued by the Boycott Office were:

India: (Coromandel Indag) Products Pvt. Ltd., (Madras) Interads Advertising Pvt.

Ltd. (New Delhi) India Linoleums Ltd., (Birlap) West Bengal) Velco Pvt. Ltd. (Bombay) Oriental Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., (Calcutta) Utkal Pesticides and Chemical, (Orissa) Madhusudan Industries, (Madras), Venateswar Agrochemicals and Minerals (Madras) the Anil Product Ltd., (Bulsar) Gujarat.

Greece: Superintendans Athens, (Athens) Diavata (adjacent to Easo) Paper Refinery, (The ssaloniki) K. Voutas (Sindou-Chalassas Highway) Hlo Textiler Z.S. Constantinidis (Thessaloniki), Folkadam A.C. Adamidis, (Thessaloniki).

The following year she was sold to a Copenhagen firm and was converted into a live-stock carrier.

With the Countess going into service in 1976, and the Princess last year, the Adventurer was sold in 1976 to a Oslo company.

The smaller cruise ships are proving profitable because they are more economical to run, concentrate on short or use holidays and offer more democracy in a world where increasingly, the terms "first class" and "tourist" smack of the stigma of elitism.

The sole survivor  
Although the days of the great ocean liners are undoubtedly over, there is still a big enough market to sustain the sole remaining liner: The Queen Elizabeth II, which is now the largest passenger liner in the world. She is 963 feet long and 66,851 tons. She takes up to 1,800 passengers and is reported to be doing great business.

For the world's shipping companies generally, however, the big liners are a luxury which can no longer be afforded, and the trend is towards smaller, modern cruise ships, such as the P & O Princess ships which operate out of the West Coast of the United States and Cunard's Countess and Princess, which cruise in the Caribbean. The Countess and Princess replaced the Cunard Ambassador and Adventurer, two cruise ships which were sold off in the past couple of years.

The Cunard Ambassador appears to have been particularly ill-starred: Completed in 1972, she joined her sister ship in the Caribbean, but was badly damaged by fire in 1974.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

	Jordanian Dinar	Buying/Selling
U.S. dollar	214.00/216.00	
U.K. sterling	604.00/608.00	
W. German mark	147.40/148.30	
Swiss franc	158.70/157.80	
French franc	66.50/67.00	
Italian lire (for every 100)	36.00/36.20	
Japanese yen (for every 100)	131.00/131.80	
Dutch guilder	138.00/138.80	
Belgian franc	95.20/95.80	
Swedish crown	66.50/67.20	

مكتبة الامم







